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THE WASHINGTON HERALD SPORTING SECTION

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AMATEUR SPORTS
AND GOSSIP.

WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 1911.

Ainsmith's Heavy Hitting Wins Another Game for the Nationals

NATIONALS TAKE OPENER AGAINST BOSTON CLUB

Ainsmith's Timely Hitting and Hughes' Twirling After
Dolly Gray Weakens Land Well-earned Vic-
tory by 4 to 3 Score.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Boston, April 29.—On three lone hits, one a timely triple by Catcher Ainsmith, and two bad errors by First Baseman Williams, the Nationals succeeded in winning the opening game from the Red Sox to-day. McAleer's excellent judgment incidentally saving the game when Pitcher Dolly Gray wobbled and the C Q D signal was ready to be hoisted.

Seldom has Pitcher Joe Wood given a better exhibition of skill in Boston, and seldom has a pitcher been thrown down as hard as was the young speed flinger this afternoon.

With a world of speed, fine control, and everything at his command, Wood was robbed of what looked like sure victory, just because that lamentable gap at first base position has not yet been filled upon the Boston team.

Washington fielded cleanly, with the exception of one rather excusable error by Second Baseman Cunningham, and many a time when a well-meant slap from a Boston bat went sailing out toward the bleachers, the plucky Elberfeld or the omnipresent McBride was ready to intercept its course. Dolly Gray seldom is allowed to stay in the box when the Sox are his opponents, and to-day's battle proved no exception. He can thank the splendid support accorded him for the unexpected victory to-day.

Home Run for Speaker. Up to the fourth inning Gray, like Wood, seemed to be unshakable, but in this inning Tris Speaker broke the line of goose eggs by pounding one of Dolly Gray's offerings to the center field fence for the cleanest and hardest home run of the year. One tally looked reasonably big to Boston fans, but when Yerkes doubled in the fifth and Joe Wood helped out his team mates by slamming a hard triple to the right field cigarette sign, the game seemed to be packed on ice, and the crowd was wondering whether or not the Nationals would be able to score.

In the Washington-Boston series at the opening of the season it may be remembered that the sixth and seventh innings were fatal to the Sox, and history repeated itself to-day. A pass to Cunningham to start off with in the sixth inning, a steal, and Gray's timely swing to left gave McAleer's men one run and sent the Nationals out to the field again only one tally behind and with blood showing in their eyes.

But, oh, that awful seventh. Boston fans would like to see this disastrous inning cut out altogether. It is a session that has cost Donovan's "night riders" dearly in almost every series. A fatal pass again paved the way to disaster, for Lelivelt waited out Wood at the opening and took his base with a confident smile. Elberfeld was the next batter up, and on an attempted hit-and-run play that didn't work out right, he banged a tantalizing grounder at Elberfeld. Elberfeld made a good stop and then hurried it straight across to first. The talkative Mr. Williams, who chatters much better than he covers the first sack, was watching to see if the play would be made at second, and was slightly unprepared when the ball came sailing into his mitt. So he dropped it, to Coach McBride's joy, and Lelivelt kept on to third.

McBride Strikes Out. This made things look vastly different. McBride came down to take a swing, but he didn't do as well as expected. He took three healthy ones and sukked toward the bench murmuring that umpire Evans could not hear. The infield closed in to make a play on the next batter at the plate. That is, they expected to make it, but when Somerlot swatted a weak grounder that got tangled up in the awkwardly moving Williams' feet, Lelivelt came across with the tying run and the bleachers groaned.

But Cunningham struck out and this left two down. The fans still had hope that Wood would be able to keep the next batsman from hitting anywhere near first base.

Ainsmith, who had already bunched once, was up this time to do business. Joe got Eddie in the hole for two strikes, but, following instructions, he tried to punch Wood, with a serene contempt for Ainsmith's ability, grooved the next one, and the fans howled with rage as they saw Hooper chasing the pellet into right field, while two more runs came in, and the runner halted on third. Gray was the next hitter, and he fanned, making the third one who did this stunt in the inning, but there was no joy in the bleachers, and Wood got but little applause. The fans were too sore to mop their sweating brows.

The Sox had a chance in the last half to redeem themselves, but they must have lost sight of the fact that there is such a thing in Boston known in baseball as the squeeze play.

Williams got a life on a bad throw by Cunningham after a very cute stop of a difficult grounder. Ainsmith got quite a hand for his fine backing up that saved an extra base. Yerkes pounded out a double. Williams scored and Gray obeyed the beckoning finger of McAleer and headed toward the bench. Hughes came in, and when he fumbled Nunamaker's sacrifice, putting a man on third and another on first every one was willing

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

Washington, 4; Boston, 3.
Philadelphia, 10; New York, 6.
Cleveland, 2; Detroit, 1.
St. Louis, 1; Chicago, 0.
(Five innings.)

GAMES TO-DAY.

Cleveland at Detroit.
St. Louis at Chicago.

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.

Club	W.	L.	Pct.	Win. Loss
Detroit	12	2	.857	.857
New York	7	2	.778	.778
WASHINGTON	6	1	.857	.857
Boston	6	7	.462	.462
Cleveland	4	7	.417	.417
Philadelphia	4	7	.417	.417
St. Louis	3	9	.250	.250
Chicago	2	10	.167	.167

to forgive Williams for his two costly bores. But here is where Hughes showed his noodle. Wagner was sent in to hit for Wood, who was taken out in the effort to tie it up. When runs were coming in hard the squeeze play looked like the proper caper, but Wagner tried to knock the cover off the ball. His effort was a sharp grounder to McBride, who held his man on third and then threw the runner out at first. Gardner drew a pass, filling the sacks, and once again the squeeze looked like the logical solution. Hooper put up a weak fly to short left and the dreams of the fans were fading. And when Tris Speaker made it three out on a grounder to first, even the rooting fans gave Hughes an ovation. It was a mighty good work for Hughes, but very dull headwork for Boston.

There were no more scores and no other dangerous situations, the Boston relief corps of hitters failing to accomplish anything in their last two innings. Wood fanned eight men in seven innings and held the Nationals to three hits. Neither Karger nor Hughes was hit safely in the last two innings.

Club	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Washington	30	4	27	14	3	1
Boston	30	3	24	14	3	1
Miller, cf.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Conroy, rf.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Lelivelt, lf.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Elberfeld, 2b.	4	0	0	4	0	1
McBride, ss.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Somerlot, 1b.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Verkes, c.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Nunamaker, 3b.	4	0	0	4	0	1
Wood, p.	1	0	0	1	0	1
Wagner, p.	1	0	0	1	0	1
Purcell, p.	1	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	31	3	27	15	3	1

*Batted for Wood in seventh.
*Batted for Karger in ninth.

Two-base hits—Yerkes (2). Three-base hits—Wood, Ainsmith. Home run—Speaker. Error—Hooper. Bases on balls—Off Elberfeld, 2; off Wood, 2; off Hughes, 1; off Karger, 1; off Hughes, 1. Sacrifice hit—Nunamaker. Double play—Gardner to Yerkes to Williams. Hit by pitched ball—Elberfeld. Men on base—Evans and Egan. Time of game—2 hours and 10 minutes. Attendance—15,000.

NOTES OF THE GAME.

The coaching of Germany Schaefer was missed. He is suffering from lumbago and was sent home this forenoon.

Boston was a ten to six favorite among the "talent" when the game opened. No body loves the Red Sox to-night. They have lost four games out of the last six on the home grounds.

McBride was robbed of a triple by Speaker in the first inning. He went out three times on hard line drives.

Cunningham's work was a vast improvement over that of a fortnight ago. He handled several tough chances very prettily and confirmed the opinion held in Boston of his ability.

Eddie Cloutie will probably work on Monday. He is anxious to get revenge for what the Nationals did to him at Washington.

The Boston team is in bad shape. Carrigan's leg is in a plaster cast; Kintnow and Madden both have injured fingers, and Nunamaker, one of this season's new recruits, is scheduled to do all the catching.

Now Williams will have to go behind the bat in the event of injury to Nunamaker, who is the only available backstop. Wagner would then be put upon his first base.

Each of the opposing pitchers sent in one of the runs. Wood drove his in with a three-bagger, though the chances are that he would have done any worse than did the pinch hitter who swatted for him the following inning.

It was tough on Wood to be forced to quit the game after holding the Nationals safe down to three hits in seven innings, and sending in a big run for his side. He could not have done any worse than did the pinch hitter who swatted for him.

The fans yelled more than once for our old friend Doc Gessler, who was a big favorite here at one time. Doc got on the coaching line, but that was as near as he came to getting into the game. The eminent M. D. used to deal out some destructive swats on these grounds.



ONE MORE CHANCE FOR WALKER; SUSPENSION IF HE FALLS DOWN

By WILLIAM PEET.

Dixie Walker, the Nationals' big twirler, has just one more chance to show Manager McAleer that he can hold up his head in fast company. Walker will in all probability be sent in against Boston during one of the three remaining games in the hub, and if he fails to impress the Nationals' boss it will be a long vacation without pay for the Alabama slant artist.

This information comes direct from Manager McAleer, who was thoroughly disgusted with the form displayed by Walker last Thursday when the Athletics hammered him to all the corners of the ball yard. Walker didn't have a thing—not even speed.

As the writer has previously stated, McAleer had a heart-to-heart talk with Walker two weeks ago and read the riot act to Dixie. The big fellow's habits have not been of the best, and he promised to mend his ways.

Since that time McAleer has kept strict tabs on Walker, who promised to mend his ways, but still the twirler does not seem to be in shape, and he will be given one more opportunity to make good.

In case Walker shows no improvement over the work of the two games in which he has already pitched, he will be promptly suspended without pay until he shapes himself to Manager McAleer in shape to pitch.

It is now up to Walker.

The Nationals to-night are in third place in the American League pennant race—with the race three weeks old. But the margin is such a slim one that two straight defeats may find them back in the second division.

Last week six games were played, only two Washington victories resulting. Walter Johnson won his game in Philadelphia and Gray and Tom Hughes trimmed Boston yesterday.

Three Washington players were launched into the limelight last week. Wild Conroy, Eddie Ainsmith, and Long John Somerlot. Conroy got his first chance in a league game against Philadelphia, and while he did nothing startling at the bat or in the field, the veteran looked pretty good, and the Quaker City newspapers had a number of flattering things to say about his work.

First Baseman John Somerlot, who

watched Collegian John Henry open the season, was ordered to go to work in Philadelphia Friday, and also played the bag in good shape yesterday.

Henry has not been hitting, and Somerlot was, of course, the next best bet. Long John grabbed off a couple of hits Friday and one yesterday, which would make it appear as if he was slated to be our first sacker until his batting eye shows signs of weakness.

The meeting, which gives every prospect a week's work, has been breaking up games in the past two days. His timely wallop in the Quaker City Friday helped win the game, and that three-base punch in the second division, which would make it appear as if he was slated to be our first sacker until his batting eye shows signs of weakness.

As Boston is Ainsmith's home, the youngster probably walked down Commonwealth avenue last night with his chest thrown out and a smile on his lips.

According to reports, Bill Cunningham is a much improved player. This also is good news, for Rubber Shirt Bill looked like a weak hole when the club opened the season here.

The Nationals play three more games in Boston and will then return to Washington for a series against the Philadelphia Athletics starting next Thursday, when four contests are scheduled.

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HILLTOPPERS GO DOWN TO DEFEAT IN RAGGED GAME

Commerce Chamber Team Wins from Georgetown.

Georgetown's baseball team caught a tartar in Phil King's Chamber of Commerce club, on Hilltop Field, yesterday afternoon, the collegians going down to a 10 to 5 defeat because they could not hit Chamber of Commerce's twirlers, Becker and Ferguson.

The contest was a long drawn out, poorly played affair. Georgetown offered three pitchers, all of whom did good work. Mitchell lasted two innings. Dave White did good work until the sixth, when he was reached for a run, and the seventh saw his finish, three hits scoring, two more tallies. "Wabby" O'Connor finished the game, but was unsteady, and two more runs were added.

That the collegians were beaten by this team is no disgrace, for the Chamber of Commerce line-up some of the best amateurs of the District appeared. This team should be able to hold its own with any minor league (Class D) club in the country.

Phil King, the old Princeton star, did not play with the Commerce Chamber boys. Phil is not yet in shape, and has a few kinks in his muscles which demand straightening out before he jumps into a real game.

"Skeets" Hays put up a beautiful game at second for the winners, and West, behind the bat, handled both Becker and Ferguson in great shape.

The Hilltoppers were absolutely powerless before the speed and fast-breaking curves of "Lefty" Becker. Only two hits were made off the lanky boxman and only one runner saw second base.

Georgetown got its runs in the final two rounds, when Ferguson was liberal with his passes, and hits by Cogan and Fienlii dropped out at the right time.

Cogan was the Georgetown star, collecting three safe cracks out of five times at the bat.

COM. CHAM.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Taylor, cf.	4	1	3	1	0	0
Hayes, 2b.	5	3	3	3	0	0
Cissell, 1b.	4	0	1	1	0	0
MacDonald, 3b.	3	1	1	1	0	0
Bryan, lf.	3	0	1	0	0	0
Clardy, rf.	1	1	0	0	0	0
Vaughan, 2b.	4	0	1	1	0	0
Levertson, ss.	4	0	0	0	0	0
West, 1b.	1	1	1	1	0	0
Becker, p.	4	1	0	0	0	0
Ferguson, p.	1	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	32	5	12	7	4	0

GEORGETOWN.	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Hunt, cf.	5	0	0	1	0	0
Cogan, 2b.	5	3	3	3	0	0
Fury, 1b.	4	0	0	1	0	0
Feenan, 3b.	3	0	0	0	1	1
Donnelly, lf.	4	0	0	1	0	0
Fienlii, rf.	3	2	1	0	0	0
Connelly, 2b.	2	1	0	3	2	0
Clardy, p.	0	0	0	0	0	0
White, p.	2	0	0	0	0	0
O'Connor, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	32	5	5	12	4	0

*Batted for O'Connor in the ninth.
Com. Chamber. 2 3 0 0 1 2 0 10
Georgetown. 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 3 5

Left on bases—Commerce Chamber, 7; Georgetown, 4. First base on balls—Off Becker, 2; off O'Connor, 1; off Ferguson, 1. Struck out—By Mitchell, 2; by White, 2; by O'Connor, 3; by Becker, 3; by Ferguson, 5. Sacrifice hits—MacDonald and Becker. Sacrifice bunts—Cogan, Fury, Davis, Fienlii, Taylor. Hit by pitcher—Ferguson. Passed balls—Fury. Umpire—Mr. Edmonston. Time of game—2 hours and 5 minutes.

GALLAUDET IS SECOND. Kendall Green Collegians Do Fine Work at Philadelphia.

Special to The Washington Herald. Philadelphia, April 29.—In a special class college event at the Pennsylvania relay races, held here to-day under ideal weather conditions, started Gallaudet, St. John's, of Annapolis; Delaware, Washington, Muhlenburg, and Winchester. The seven teams were composed of fast men. Gallaudet won second honors in the last time of 3:20.5.

Willie Lewis Given Decision. Paris, April 29.—Although Willie Lewis was given the decision over Dixie Kid in a twenty-round bout here this evening, the general opinion was that the negro had made the best showing. When the referee announced his decision there was such an uproar of disapproval that the police were called to protect him.

COLLEGE GAMES. At Niagara University—Niagara University, 9; Holy Cross, 1.

At Bowdoin—Bowdoin, 6; Vermont, 4.

At Massachusetts Agricultural—Massachusetts Agricultural, 2; Dartmouth, 1.

At Franklin and Marshall—Franklin and Marshall, 3; Lehigh, 2.

At Brown—Brown, 6; West Point, 7.

NEW ENGLAND LEAGUE. At Haverhill—Haverhill, 3; Lawrence, 1.

At Worcester—Worcester, 4; Lowell, 1.

At New Bedford—New Bedford, 5; Lynn, 3.

At Fall River—Fall River, 1; Revere, 4.

NAVY CREW WINS. Annapolis, Md., April 29.—In the opening race of the Eastern "varsity" rowing season, the Naval Academy won from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in a two-mile race on the Severn, by slightly over two lengths, in a choppy sea. The winning time was 11 minutes, 17 4-5 seconds.

Tech's crew covered the course in 11 minutes 25 4-5 seconds. The race was on the outer course in Annapolis Harbor.

UNION STATION TAKES OPENER FROM SOUTHERN

R. R. Y. M. C. A. League Has Successful Opening.

By C. W. SWAN.

Sam Ryon, the Casey Jones of the R. Y. M. C. A. League, won the opening game for the Union Station nine yesterday, in the tenth inning, 8 to 7. With Stratton on first, Ryon came on the field from the roundhouse in greasy overalls and jumper, and Manager Nolan put him in to bat for Thompson. The first ball that Williams served up was sent to the Florida avenue car tracks for a homer.

Not only in the preceding line did Ryon shine, but in running the bases he was a wonder. In turning first he stumbled over the sack, but, nothing daunted, the big engineer, Ryon, scrambled to his feet and made the rest of the trip in record breaking time. When he crossed the home plate he was on schedule time to the second, and met no opposition.

This was but one of the many startling plays that occurred in the opening game of the Railroad Y. M. C. A. League. Time and again features stood cropped up that caused the large crowd that completely circled the field to send up a mighty shout.

After forming at Union Station the officials of the league, players, and band in three sight-seeing automobiles started on their annual parade of the city. With the band playing martial music and the sun shining in the most approved baseball manner, nothing was needed to make the league's opening an unqualified success.

Large Crowd Greets Parade. All along the route of the parade large crowds met the procession with shouts of encouragement and good will. This year's opening was with a doubt the most auspicious of any amateur league in the District.

When the procession reached the grounds at Fifth and Florida avenue pictures were taken all around, and then the real happenings began. R. B. Tolson, chairman of the committee of management of the R. Y. M. C. A., tossed out the first ball with the shouts of the large throng ringing in his ears. Then came the first battle of the season.

Charlie Umbaugh, the star twirler of the Station team, was on the mound for Manager Nolan's nine and pitched one of the best games of his career. Umbaugh struck out fifteen and allowed the Southern boys eight scattered hits. Anderson, who was behind the bat for the Station crew, did good work considering his lack of practice and the terrific speed of Umbaugh.

Umbaugh was not the only pitcher who twirled an excellent game. Hays Williams, who was in the box for Southern Railway, was in midseason form, fanning eight and holding the heavy-hitting Station crew to six hits, two of them being of the scratch variety. After the first inning, when stage light had both teams in hand, Williams settled down to his career's first ball game. In the tenth, after Seneseny had thrown Allenworth's grounder away, and Osborne was an easy out, Seneseny to Merchant, two hits came in succession, including Ryon's home-run clout and the game was on ice for the Station nine.

Fitzgerald Caught Good Game. Fitzgerald held Williams up in his usual good style, and was in the game from the start. The little red-haired catcher put a lot of "pep" into his team, and will prove to be one of the leading

Continued on Page 2, Column 1.

Princeton, 3; Cornell, 2.

Princeton, N. J., April 29.—Princeton defeated Cornell here to-day, 3 to 2. The Ithacans scored two runs in the second inning on errors by Princeton, and it was not until the fifth inning that the Tigers located Nesbit and scored three runs, enough to win with Woodie's classy pitching. Score:

Princeton	AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Princeton	9	3	6	6	2	3
Cornell	9	2	6	6	2	3

Batteries—Nesbit and McCormick; Woodie and Taylor. Umpires—Messrs. Radford and Sternberg.

Yale Triumphs Over Penn. New Haven, April 29.—Yale scored a victory over